# THE WOMEN'S MISSIONARY MAGAZINE

—OF—

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

VOL. 10. MAY, 1897. NO. 10


## ON THE DEATH OF A MISSIONARY.

Noble child and noble woman,
Earnest, steadfast, pure and true,
Quick in thought and strong in purpose,
Ever finding work to do.

In whatever phase we saw her—
Daughter, teacher, sister, friend;
She was working, giving, praying;
*Christ* her watchword to the end.

Volumes would not tell the story
Of her goodness and her love;
Of the planting and the watering,
Blessed with increase from above.

When the great Divine Commander,
Looking o'er the battle ground,
Grants promotion to our leaders,
Calling them to well-earned rest,—

He will bless this cause our sister
Prayed for with her dying breath.
As we gloried in her living
May we glory in her death.

ELLA HUTCHISON PUGH.

# IN MEMORIAM.—MISS MARTHA J. McKOWN.

MARTHA J. McKown was born March 24, 1834, at Elizabeth, Pa., and was baptized by the Rev. Matthew McKinstry; was a teacher in the Sabbath-school at fourteen, taught in the public school at sixteen, joined the church at New Concord, O., at seventeen; was graduated at Monmouth college in 1859; was principal of a female seminary at Oakaloosa, Ia., for a time, and sailed Oct. 6, 1860, for the mission in Egypt, where she labored in the vineyard of our common Lord from November, 1860, until the spring of 1894. I first met her in Dr. J. T. Pressly's church in Allegheny, just after the farewell meeting on the eve of her departure to Egypt. I was then under appointment to go to the same mission the following year. I did not then know that we would be associated together in work in the same station, but it so turned out that my appointment to Cairo was changed to Alexandria, where she was laboring.

On her arrival at the field, November 13th, 1860, she was associated with Miss Dales in the work of female education in Alexandria, and as the Italian language was more useful there than the Arabic, she at once commenced to take lessons in it as well as in Arabic, and in two or three years succeeded in acquiring a knowledge of it sufficient to make herself very useful. In the autumn of 1861 Miss Dales removed to Cairo, and the management of the girls' school in Alexandria fell upon Miss McKown. As her knowledge of the languages of the school was still meagre, she felt the responsibility very deeply; but, with the aid of Dr. and Mrs. Hogg, during the first part of the year, efficient work was done, so much so that the Jewish community got alarmed for their girls, many of whom were in the American school, and opened a school for girls under their own auspices, offering every facility in the shape of free education, and books, gratis, to induce the parents to remove their girls from the Christian schools. Consequently, in a short time many of the Jewesses left, and the number of the pupils was greatly reduced. Discouraging as this was to Miss McKown, she continued to work faithfully. She then, and up to the spring of 1865, was a member of my family, and always acted towards Mrs. W. and myself as a sister, in times of sickness lending a helping hand thoughtfully and cheerfully.

She was not, however, satisfied with her field of labor in Alexandria, and often said she preferred a purely Arabic field, and she realized the fulfilment of her heart's desire in the early part of 1865 when it was decided to open a new station in Asyut. Dr. Hogg and she were appointed to occupy that place and to enter in at the doors which were being opened by various means in that part of the country. They reached Asyut on February 21st; schools were opened for boys and girls on March 5th. At first there were only six boys and two girls, but by the 13th they had an attendance of 18 boys and 13 girls. During the first few years there were many and great discouragements in the work of training girls. The people of Asyut and neighborhood did not then appreciate the advantages offered them, but with untiring zeal and firm resolution, Miss McKown persevered in her work, encouraged and aided by Dr. and Mrs. Hogg. On February 23rd, 1875, the boarding school in Asyut was opened under the management of Miss McKown. The number of pupils attending the first year was eleven, but the attendance increased from year to year as the

people learned more and more of the Christian training given to, and the unremitting care exercised over, the girls. The quarters had to be enlarged several times before the present commodious premises were erected. During one of her visits to America, Miss McKown met with Mr. Pressly, of Monmouth, and laid before him the claims of female education in Upper Egypt, and secured from him a donation of $5,000 towards the erection of the present building, and $5,000 towards an endowment in aid of carrying on the institution; so that it was mostly owing to her tact and energy that the people of Upper Egypt enjoy such a home, in which to have their girls educated and trained. She labored early and late with her pen and with her tongue, she planned, and taught, and disciplined, and prayed for the female portion of Egypt's millions, aided by various parties whom it is not necessary to mention here.

A few years after her return to Egypt the last time, she began to notice a defect in her eye sight. It was first observed by her in looking at the moon, and from that time on the difficulty gradually increased. She saw, as it were, a veil gradually coming down first over one eye and then over the other, until, notwithstanding the remedies applied by a skilled oculist and severe operations performed, the world withits beauty and the faces of dear friends and even the light of the sun could no longer be seen. But during all those months and years of suffering and waning vision, she manifested the greatest patience and resignation, and after her eyesight was gone she labored on for some time, was taken to the houses of the people in a small carriage, and talked with the women of the way of salvation, the love of the Saviour, and the duty and privilege of working for Him. In the spring of 1894 she went to America, where she spent some time in visiting friends, and then found a resting place prepared for her in the "Home for the Aged," in which she was often visited by kind friends, to whom it was her great delight to speak of the mission work and mission friends in Egypt.

Miss McKown was a woman of vigorous constitution. She seemed able to bear the extremes of heat and cold, and was at her work early and late. Sometimes she took only a short vacation, and sometimes she spent all summer in Asyut. She had a strong, clear mind, with a constitutional bent for planning. She could have planned for the whole mission, if this had been her province, and on most subjects her opinions were worthy of more than a passing consideration. In stating her opinions in the association she always did so in a clear, logical manner. Indeed on some occasions, though on the opposite side of the questions, I admired the forcible and clear way she made her statements.

She had a deep interest in the mission work. It was the one thing that engaged her attention and called forth her energies. Though interested in all the fields, she personally knew the town of Asyut and the district around, and never failed to bring forward and plead the wants of that region.

She laid the foundation of female education broad and deep. Great praise is due to her for her self-sacrificing labors, both among the girls and among the women. Many were enabled by her words and example to bear life's burdens more patiently and to perform life's duties more faithfully. Many, very many, in Egypt, and especially in Upper Egypt, remember her with respect, gratitude and affection. I think it may be said of her she did what she could in her life-time, and now she has received

her reward. She will find congenial company in the mansions above, among them co-laborers, and also some of her own pupils. We have one more friend in heaven. ANDREW WATSON.

*Cairo, Egypt.*

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A fellow worker writes:

"Our hearts have been saddened by the news of the death of our dear sister, Miss McKown. Having lived as a co-worker with her for three years, I desire to add my testimony concerning her earnest Christian character, and the faithful missionary work that she accomplished in Egypt. Miss McKown excelled in capability, good judgment and far sightedness in planning her work. She loved the people and they loved her. The Pressly Memorial Institute stands as a monument of her untiring efforts in the city of Asyut and the surrounding country.

"We know that Miss McKown endured many hardships and trials, but she is now enjoying the rest that remaineth for the people of God."

* *

I do not think that I can add to what has already been written concerning Miss McKown's life and work in this land, but there was one thing that impressed me as much, or more, than anything else, and that was her sympathy for the people of this land. She was always ready to make excuses for any shortcomings on their part by saying, "They are weak in faith and must learn gradually. We must patiently teach them the way." I first met Miss McKown on my arrival in Asyut in the fall of 1880. I was greatly impressed with the way she managed the school. She showed great tact and firmness in dealing with the people, yet there was the spirit of love in it all and I remember asking myself over and over again, "Will I ever be able to sympathize with them as she does?" She was ever zealous for the cause of women and girls in this land, and none of us will ever know of the sleepless nights she spent over planning for the building of the Pressley Memorial Institute in Asyut, and how many heartaches she had over the purchase of the land for the Institute And after it all, how hard it must have been for her never to be permitted to carry on the school work in the Institute after it was finished. Before the walls of the building were completed, she felt that she was rapidly losing her eyesight, and she almost watched the laying of every brick, so anxious was she to have the outline in her mind before darkness would overtake her. At last the walls were finished, and as she took the train for Alexandria to have her eyes treated, we could see her face at the car window, taking a last look at what we might say was her idol. She never complained of her lot, but humbly and patiently bore her affliction and set us all an example of trust in God. Her giving up the work here was not done without prayertul consideration, and many nights she did not retire to rest till morning. But when the decision was finally made and the struggle of giving in her resignation was over, her mind seemed to be at rest, and she set to work to plan for her homegoing.

From her cheerfulness, we did not imagine that she was bearing so much on her heart, and that the leave-taking would cost her such a struggle. I shall never forget it. How she loved Egypt! One of our best educated men of this country, on hearing of her death, said, "Egypt has lost her best friend."

*Cairo, Egypt.* ELIZABETH GIFFEN.

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In thinking over Miss McKown's life

in Egypt, a feeling of thankfulness comes over me that I was permitted to be a co-laborer with her in the work here, to share her warm friendship, and to witness her zeal in planning new work, or new methods for the elevation of our sisters in Egypt. Many sleepless nights she spent in her later missionary life, and the time was spent in thinking about, or praying for, the different people over whom she exercised such an influence, or the schools, and how these might be bettered, or have new buildings, or how to secure the money for such purposes. Her prayers showed how deep her feelings were on some of these subjects, and her efforts will not be forgotten by those with whom she was associated, or by those who were under her care. I have often thought of how she worked for the establishment of girls' schools in the early days, and then for the boarding schools of our mission. Then later, what an interest she took in missionary societies, and our presbyterial, where she was noted for her knowledge of parliamentary rules, and for a desire for the success of our meeting!

Perhaps one of the greatest trials of her life was her leaving Egypt, less than three years ago, unable to prosecute her work except under very great difficulties, owing to her loss of sight and defective hearing. Perhaps a few lines of a song written by Dr. Norman MacLeod, (with Egypt instead of Finnary as the ending) will in a way express what her feelings were the day we accompanied her to the railway station when she left us:

"A thousand thousand tender ties
Awake this day my plaintive sighs.
My heart within me almost dies
To think of leaving Finnary."

ANNA Y. THOMPSON.

CAIRO, Feb. 20, 1897.

From a Private Letter.

"We were very sorry to hear of dear Miss McKown's death. It was so unexpected. A little more than two weeks ago Miss Thompson and I had a long letter from her, in which she had a kind message for each one of the missionaries here at Cairo. It is hard to realize that we will see her face no more in this world. To me she was a special friend to whom I have often gone for help or sympathy. She had strong convictions of what was right, and courage to maintain the right.

"She is held in kind and loving remembrance by the natives who knew her, and has done much for the women and girls of Upper Egypt. She was most liberal in giving of her means for the Lord's work in this land. How she loved to talk about, and plan for the work, and what a trial it was for her to give up the work she so much loved. I often admired the patience and meekness with which she bore the terrible cross of blindness, never murmuring or fretting but cheerful and happy."

Lovingly yours,

*Cairo, Egypt.* M. A. SMITH.

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**Miss McKown in the Home for the Aged.**

In the death of Miss M. J. McKown, the family in the Home for the Aged, and also its Board of Managers, find cause for deep sorrow. Miss McKown entered the Home in June, 1895, and left us January 30, 1897.

The influence of her spiritual life has been manifest upon all who knew her. She was ever ready to sympathize with those who were troubled or in sorrow; always had a kind word of advice for those who would for a moment cherish an unkind thought, and many are now ready to tell how she would gently lay her hand on theirs and by kind words

dispel every shadow.

In the morning and evening family worship, she would cheerfully respond, if asked to conduct the services, and her earnest prayers for our Home, and every one connected with it, have strengthened us and given us much courage. There was sunshine enough in her heart and life to radiate and inspire others to yield to its potent power. She was always cheerful, and though she was deeply afflicted, she was never in the shadow. Every morning had its manna, and every night its pillar of fire. Her life was one of the good influences which makes the world better.

Gratitude was one of her prominent traits of character, and to our Home for the Aged she was deeply grateful, and so often expressed herself as being so happy in belonging to a church that would make such comfortable provision for its aged ones. She possessed a lofty spirit and was not one to bow down in humility to those who provided such means, but in her heart there was first gratitude to God, the giver of all good, then a right acknowledgement to his stewards and representatives. We have had letters from her relatives telling us how happy she was with her comfortable, pleasant surroundings in our Home, and they tell us she was specially grateful to our matron, Mrs. Ecoff, and our nurse, Mrs. Wandless, for their loving, gentle care of her during an illness a year ago, and at all times when she needed help or assistance. She spoke of all connected with the Home as "my dear friends," a tribute which all who knew her will cherish.

A year ago she made application to the Foreign Board of Missions—without the knowledge of our Board of Management—for a yearly allowance as a retired missionary, in recognition of her services in the foreign field, and said if her request was granted it would be a real pleasure to be able each year to make a contribution to our Home for the Aged.

Before the remains were removed to her old home at Elizabeth, Pa., for burial, a service was conducted at the Home for the Aged under the direction of Dr. M. M. Patterson, Dr. W. J. Reid and Rev. Ashenhurst, who as her associate in mission work spoke of the monument to her memory in Egypt—the Girl's School, which would be more lasting than the pyramids.

A committee from the Ministerial Association and a committee from the Board of the Home for the Aged accompanied the remains to Elizabeth, where interment took place the following day, after a service there conducted by the minister in charge, assisted by others, and Rev. Ashenhurst addressing the people.

Though she is gone, yet will her influence be felt by all who have known her. One of her sisters said, in a letter we received, "She is gone from the Home for the Aged to the home where they never grow old, where she can *see*, not the beauties of earth, but those of the Heavenly Kingdom.

Her personal effects were more numerous than those of other members of our family, and while by rules and regulations governing our Home, which Miss McKown fully *understood* and *endorsed*, every article belonged to the Home, yet distribution has been made, and Miss McKown's watch, handsome souvenir jewels, *in fact all* her belongings, were equitably distributed among her brothers and sisters.

MRS. W. W. GRIER,
President Board of Managers of the Home for the Aged.

*Oakmont, Pa.*

# MRS. TALLBOY'S GUESTS.

MRS. S. H. GILMAN.

"IF ever I open my house again to strangers, you'll catch a white blackbird!" exclaimed Mrs. Tallboy, as she came up stairs. She was flushed and tired. All the morning she had been in the kitchen, the oven door opening and shutting with a bang and the air resounding with the beating of eggs and pounding of crackers. It was the first Tuesday in October. The great annual meeting of the A. B. C. F. M. was held in C——this year, and this was the day when it would begin, with its influx of visitors from every part of Christendom. "There is an ocean of things to be done yet," continued Mrs. Tallboy to her aunt, who had just dropped in for a moment, "and I'm tired to death now." She sat down in an attitude of utter dejection with an armful of fresh towels in her lap.

"Louise," said Aunt Eliza, "it's because you wont give up your besetting sin. You can't look me in the face this moment and deny that you've been making three kinds of cake when one would do, and rolling croquettes like Martha, instead of giving your guests cold ham like Mary. How many are you going to have?"

"Four! Fool that I was to say that I'd take so many when the committee came round last spring! A minister and his wife from Fileno, Me.—wherever that may be! and a home missionary and his wife from out West somewhere."

"Well, dear, it's not for your own pleasure you undertake it. Don't forget that, and I'm sure the Lord will help you through."

"Faith and fatigue never go along together with me, I find," answered Mrs. Tallboy, taking up the towels with a sigh.

She got through with all that her high ideals of housekeeping demanded barely in time to dress herself and meet her guests, when they arrived before tea, with a smile, which to their eyes bore no suspicion of forcing. The Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Brock, of Fileno—he tall and thin, with a gentle stare over his spectacles as if he called back his ideas from another world with an effort; she thin also, but small, worn, and anxious looking, in a well-preserved black dress of the style of a dozen years back, and a showy bonnet—presented by the village milliner for this occasion—that bore no relation whatever to the meek little head under it, with its face so patient and sweet. Mr. and Mrs. Hayward, the other two, were younger and more sprightly, with a heartiness and Western frankness that stood out in a striking relief from the quiet, subdued manner of the Brocks.

The supper was excellent and went off well. That lifted Mrs. Tallboy's spirit a little, as did also her husband's cheerfulness at the sight of the well-filled table. But the fatigue was still there, and the rebellion that she had consented to all this trouble for perfect strangers. She had given up her own room to the Brocks. When she went to bed she had to go to a closet off their room for her slippers. Through the partition she overheard—involuntarily at first—this conversation:

"Josiah, isn't this a beautiful room! Why, I can't help thinking all the time that it's just a dream, my being at Board meeting. How stunned I was when Mrs. Marvin said to me that morning, 'Mrs. Brock, the whole parish is bound you shall go this year,' and clapped that money into my hand! Wont they all be pleased when they hear what a delightful family we were assigned to!"

"Yes," answered the minister's slow

voice, "we're highly favored every way, Amanda. Mrs. Tallboy seems to be really delighted to have us"—here he paused as if hunting for something. "I was almost afraid you'd forgotten my clean collars for the week, but I've found them in the bottom of the bag. You know you were so excited, dear, yesterday, when you were packing, it wouldn't have been strange."

"Well, and it's nothing to wonder at if I was," answered the other gentle voice, as if half laughing. "It's the first outing I've had for fifteen years, you know." Then she went on excitedly, "O Josiah, to think that for three whole days not a hand's turn to do, and I'm going to those grand meetings, and shall hear and see men I've read of all my life! And then the music from such a great congregation! Why, it just took me off my feet at the meeting to-night! And such a lot of old friends as one keeps coming across that you haven't seen for years! And then to-morrow we are going around a little, between times, to see the city and the sights. I declare, Josiah, it does seem too much for me!"

"No, Amanda," answered the minister's voice, with a tearful quiver in it, "you deserve every bit of it. Let us kneel down now and thank the Lord for his great goodness to us."

Mrs. Tallboy left the closet softly, and her eyes were running over when she went back to her husband. "I'm ashamed of myself for listening, and yet I'm glad I did. I never should have dreamed how happy we were making these good Christians, putting pleasures into their lives they will never forget. What am I—ungrateful, fretful creature!—that such a privilege should be given to me and my house! Why, this sweet, frail looking woman has eight children, she told me at tea, and her husband's salary was raised this year to seven hundred dollars! And she hasn't been away from home for a single day for fifteen years. Oh, wont I see that she has a good time now! And I begin to like the Haywards, too, such frank, whole-hearted people, no trouble at all to entertain. John," with a little sob, "let us kneel down together, as we used to when we were first married."

It was a happy but tear-stained face that Mr. Tallboy kissed when they rose from their knees.

Somehow the guests did not seem after that like strangers, but friends. And the meetings, where thousands met filled with a single thought, were full of inspiration and kindled a glow that made the minor vexations of life too small to be noticed. When the hour of parting came on Friday it was with real regret that Mrs. Tallboy watched the retreating forms and valises disappear down the street.

The next spring came a letter from Mr. Brock announcing the death of his wife.

"I knew, dear friends you would sympathize with me in my great bereavement, though you knew my wife so little, and I wished to tell you that the brightest spot in her last year was the time of the Board meetings at your house. It seems that she already suspected what suffering was before her. But those days of rest and real pleasure were like a special blessing sent before her trial. She often spoke of them in her last terrible illness. I never can thank you enough that you gave them to her."

Mrs. Tallboy could not speak as she handed the letter to her husband.

Three years after, the Tallboys' son, a wild boy, went West much against their wishes. In a few months he was taken ill, and consumption, long in his system, seemed inevitable. It was a long, sad journey for the anguish-stricken parents, their only hope to reach him before he

died. At the station in the little far-off settlement, what should first greet their astonished eyes but the cheerful, red-whiskered face of Mr. Hayward!

"Your son is at our house!" he exclaimed, with a hearty grip of his strong hand, first one, then the other. "We have a room all ready for you. Keep up your courage. I think he's going to pull through."

Who can picture the thankfulness of that mother's heart when he told her how, on hearing her son's name, Halifax Tallboy—"There's luck in odd names as well as numbers sometimes," he said, smiling—he had gone at once to the ranch where he lay dying of poor care and poor fare, and brought him home that very day to his wife, though they had moved into their rough little house but two days before and were still all in a heap.

Already the beautiful nursing they had given him was telling on him, so the doctor assured Mr. Tallboy. Quite as much as by the signs of returning health the parents' hearts were gladdened by seeing in their wayward boy a new humility of spirit and a thoughtfulness for others.

The next afternoon Mrs. Tallboy was sitting in happy silence beside his rocking-chair on the little porch facing the glorious mountains. He took her hand softly. "The night Mr. Hayward brought me here I fainted from weakness, and they both thought I was dying. He kneeled down by me and prayed for me—and for you, mother, I never heard such a prayer. It went to my heart, that and his kindness before. I said to myself then, for the first time in my life, I, too, will be a Christian, whether I die or live; and I mean it still, mother."

Can you not imagine the depth of feeling in Mrs. Tallboy's voice as she said to her husband that night, "Oh, what if I had refused to take any guests at the meeting of the Board!"—*American Tract Society.*

## SYMPOSIUM—THE AUXILIARY SOCIETY--ITS NEEDS.

**The topic recommended for the monthly meeting in May is, The Auxiliary Society—Its Needs. We have sought suggestions from thirty-five localities and to date have received the following replies:**

IN trying to give a thought or two on "Our Auxiliary and its needs," I do not hope to offer anything at all new or fresh, but merely, in another form, to present ideas that have been given again and again.

*First*—In our Auxiliaries we have need of more prayers by the individual members, both in the closet and in the meetings; prayer for the spiritual growth and advancement of the society, and for the furtherance of the Redeemer's kingdom far and near. Sometimes I think we depend too much on what might be termed mechanical efforts, and too little on the heavenly guidance which comes only for the earnest asking. How few of us spend one hour a month, even, pleading with God for His blessing on our society, and then we wonder that our meetings are not a success, and that there is so slight a degree of interest manifested in the work of the kingdom. Then if we do pray, it is so often in a vague way. We do not pray as if we were in earnest, as if we really desired and expected an answer. The majority of us do not have missions on our hearts; we are not bowed down with the burden of souls, and we pray just as we feel, quite indifferent to the needs of our fellow-men. We do not agonize with God to bless our feeble efforts to hasten the

coming of the day when all men shall know Him. In our devotions it is often good, I think, to centralize ourselves on some mission station, whether in the Home or Foreign field, to pray for the missionaries by name, and to plead for the outpouring of God's Spirit upon their work. Prayer should be definite and should mean something. Prayers that are merely a form of words, that wander aimlessly over America, Asia and Africa, are not apt to be the levers that move the world.

*Second*—As a sequence of this and in order to pray intelligently, our societies should have some knowledge of the present state of missions. Knowledge acquired five years ago about missionary enterprises is not sufficient now in order to keep pace with the march of events. To be ignorant on the subject of missions is to be ignorant on one of the most vital and important subjects of the day; in other words, it is to be behind the age.

At present, missionary literature is presented to the public in such attractive forms that it makes delightful reading. The lives of Paton, Williams, Brainard, and many others, are more truly interesting than any work of fiction. I have just finished reading "In the Far East," by Geraldine Guinness, not at all a new book, but to me an intensely interesting one. While perhaps the methods of work advocated are not the best on the whole, still the reading of this book, is to say the least, stimulating. The misery of the teeming masses in China touches one's sympathy, and the heroic efforts of the missionaries rouse one's admiration, while on the other hand our small labors and petty self denials appear so puny and insignificant.

Then for those who will not (for all can who will) read books, there are missionary leaflets, which can be obtained from the Literature committee. If possible, a leaflet should be put into the hand of every member of the society at least once a month. These can be exchanged and a sort of circulating library established. A leaflet read at the monthly meeting, is usually very helpful. The members of the Auxiliaries are generally very busy women, and have little time, and sometimes little ability, for original work. So, often a well read leaflet produces better effects than a few scattered thoughts jotted hastily down, often amid the pressure of household cares. A well prepared and well prayed over paper is always desirable; but alas! that is a great rarity in many a society.

*Third*—I believe there should be more planning for our societies. Any literary club requires a great deal of planning and careful thought, and a certain degree of alertness in order to make the society a success. Why should not a missionary society, devoted as it is to the furtherance of the highest interests of so many, have as much time and thought and care bestowed on it as is given to a merely intellectual meeting? The plan adopted, in some places, of having twelve directors, one for each month, works well when twelve women can be found who will be conscientiously responsible for the meetings of which they have charge. In such a case programs can be printed and distributed months ahead.

It hardly seems right to close without saying something about the necessity of increased giving among us all; but I think if all the members of our Auxiliaries will pray more, will read more, and will plan more, they will become so intensely in sympathy with the great work of saving souls, that they will most certainly give more to the Lord's treasury.

*Beaver Falls, Pa.* A. H. K.

Mrs. Joseph Cooke has said, in reference to mission work that "we are only at the beginning, and that it is in and by this work that woman is to be developed into an individual as much beyond what she now is as she now is in advance of the heathen women of India and Africa." Is this extravagant language? We think not, when we compare the wonderful work which is being accomplished in our churches to-day, through the agency of women composing Auxiliary societies, with the work of half a century ago. Is not the Christian woman of to-day almost as much in advance of her predecessor as is the woman of to-day superior to her heathen sister? And what has wrought this woudrous change? Is not the nature of the work in which we are engaged, work the most sublime and elevating given to mortals, that of saving souls? This is the work, the great missionary work, that Christ came into our world to do, and in striving to imitate Christ, we are ennobling and beautifying our own lives. And what an inspiration our Auxiliary has been to every one who has been interested in the work! How much richer and fuller our lives have been since we have studied the world's need, our mission fields, our missionaries, and the result of their efforts. And what has the Auxiliary society done for our church? Is not the woman's work of our church one of the streams making "glad the city of God"? And whence does that stream emanate? Is not each of our Auxiliary societies, however small and obscure, the source of a rivulet, which goes to swell the stream. (woman's work) which is freighted with the "glad tidings" of salvation, causing the "wilderness and the solitary place to be glad for them, and the desert to rejoice and blossom as the rose?" And this joyful news goes forth to those at home and abroad, giving "joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away." It is surely a cheering thought that we are hastening that day when "the beauty of paradise shall clothe the world, and every breeze that floats above it shall bear upon its wing the song of praise."

But what are its needs? It would seem that something is lacking when we can calmly look on eight hundred millions of human beings, that, even yet, after nineteen centuries, have not so much as heard whether there be a Christ or not! Yes, we need an increase of membership, new societies, enlarged contributions, every member a tithe giver, and many more subscribers to the Women's Missionary MAGAZINE. But our great need is a special outpouring of God's spirit, that we may realize more fully what Christ has done for us, what he is now doing, and what he has promised to do. Do we not need an increase of love for our brothers and sisters in all this wide world, that we may not only love them as we love ourselves, but love them as Christ has loved us?—John 13:34. Now how shall these needs be supplied? "I will be enquired of by the house of Israel, to do it for them." The promise of our Redeemer is "that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven." We are sure, dear sisters, we all agree that we need a fresh baptism of the spirit of love. Then let us all not only contribute our daily Thank-offering but unite in pleading with God for such an outpouring of his Spirit that we shall need no other appeal than "the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ;" that, "though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that we through his poverty might become rich."

Then shall the prayer of each loving

heart be, "Use me, my God, in thy great harvest field, which stretches far and wide like a great sea; for the laborers are few." R. B. TIMMONS.

*Chartiers Cross Roads.*

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The Auxiliary needs the co-operation of every man, woman and child in the congregation of which it is a part. Its membership needs to be well informed as to the plan of the church work, as well as its strength, numerical and financial. To this end it must make large use of missionary literature. It needs large hearted, whole souled, spiritual minded members. They should make conscience of attending the regular monthly meetings and take part in the devotions and deliberations. The Auxiliary needs the rich that they may give of their abundance, and the widow to caste in her mite. It needs members of earnest prayer, to precede, accompany and follow all efforts. It needs, above all, the presence and power of the Holy Spirit to aid such members to carry out the great commission, "Go into the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

*Olena, Ill.* MRS. N. H. BROWN.

* *

A need always implies a lack. In what is our Auxiliary society lacking? General observation shows it lacking in in at least three of the essential elements which insure a good working force. We find, first, a lack in the number of members enrolled. A comparitively small per cent. of our church women are active or even paying members of the society. We find a lack of self-denial. There is so little real sacrifice in our work. Too often it is done merely from a sense of duty with all the love left out. We find our greatest lack in spiritual power—that fundamental need, that absolute requisite, for successful work. How often and how well have we proved that 'tis "not by might nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord."

"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." We need more of the quiet waiting upon him. We want to put away the spirit of the world which creeps in upon us. We need less of the spirit of Martha, "who was cumbered with much serving." We need more of the spirit of Mary who sat at Jesus feet and heard his word.

*Pittsburg, Pa.* ALICE J. BARNETT.

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It is an undisputed fact that the W. G. M. S. cannot accomplish the end for which it was created without the aid, support and prayers of our Auxiliaries. They bear the same relation to that branch as the root does to the plant. It can no more bear abundant fruit with out them than the plant can the natural fruit without fibers. Here we see the many little fine roots or fibers extending out in every direction, gathering nutrition and moisture and strength, and sending it forth to the tap or main root, giving that life or vitality which causes it to bring forth fruit in abundance. So with the many different branches or societies. They gather up the pennies and nickles and dollars and send them rolling into the W. G. M. S. treasury to carry on the Lord's work.

"Its needs"—they are so many. I shall not attempt to enumerate them, but simply name a few, as follows: showers, of blessings that the ground may be well watered; more zeal and faith to go forward; energy and enthusiasm to awaken an interest in others; untiring effort and consecration; a greater realization of whence doth come our aid, and to give as the Lord has blessed and prospered us.

*Concordia, Kan.* MRS M. DODDS.

If all realized the importance of our work there would be more prayer, more living close to Christ, more watching for his leading, and fewer mistakes made, and God would add his blessing.

*Sterling Kans.* E. A. S.

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A missionary society established a new committee, viz., "On Cheerfulness." It was the duty of its members to bring into the missionary meetings any items of encouragement from the field, or paragraphs with a bit of life or fun in them —"something which will create a smile or provoke a laugh."

I wondered when I read it if we might not advantageously introduce such a committee into other of our societies.

What has been your experience? Have you, as a rule, gone home from your missionary meetings with a heart swelling with joy over the great work being accomplished by our missionaries, with gratitude for the souls brought into the Master's kingdom, for wrongs righted, and all the glad, joyful news of the day?

Or have you left the meeting burdened, sorrowful, sick at heart over the dreadful degradation of the people and the great needs of the the field?

So much to be done and so few workers, so great the need and so little the means at hand! I have sometimes felt we might as well give up the battle, the forces against us are so great and the work *we* can do *so* small.

Let me repeat a little story I found yesterday. It is entitled "Don't Mention the Briars." A man met a little fellow on the road carrying a basket of blackberries and said to him, "Sammy, where did you get such nice berries?"

"Over there, sir, in the briers."

"Won't your mother be glad to see you come home with a basket of such nice ripe fruit?"

"Yes sir," said Sammy. "She always seems glad when I hold up the berries, and I don't tell her anything about the briers in my feet."

Have we not grown, almost unconsciously, to look at the dark side of mission work, and use that as an incentive to greater zeal and effort? We have held up the briars instead of the berries. We talk over our difficulties in raising money. Mrs. A. is not interested at all this year in *this* field and will not contribute. Mrs. B.'s husband is out of work, so *her* contribution will fail us, and suppers and entertainments are *so much work*. How *shall* we raise the money we have pledged? We have looked at our own small end of the work so closely that it is hidden from view. Let us change this. Let us hold up our berries and forget the briers.—*Ex.*

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Many a society, like the tiny insect, seems insignificant—her seeds sown in silence when no eye looked on. But the many in one and God with them makes the work of our Women's Board what it is.

What are the needs of the Auxiliary? A need suggests a duty. The great need of every society is consecrated Christian women—women of faith, prayer, plans, enthusiasm, *harmony*—women in whom the love of Christ is the constraining power. A faith that can crown the Lord with all our love, all our treasure, and all our time, will win the glorious decree, "Be it unto thee even as thou wilt." The faith of a Mrs. Judson is conquering a world to which Alexander was a slave; for "this is the victory that overcometh the world even our faith."

The *prayer* of faith is the great secret of success. Do not be afraid of making our meetings too solemn. Dear friends, if a missionary should embark for

heathen lands this moment, several hundred thousand would pass away before he could reach them. Our meetings too solemn? We should come from our knees bathed in tears and come to pray. The effect of these meetings should be seen on every member of the society, the community and the mission cause. "*Lord teach us to pray.*"

Be enthusiastic about the work. Talk about it. Speak as if you were interested yourself, not as if discharging a disagreeable duty. Mention the bright and pleasings things connected with your work, and forget the discouragements, and you will be cheered and may enlist others. We are not interested as we should be. A man fell overboard a vessel in a storm and was drowned. As he sank the last time a man came rushing wildly on deck shouting frantically, "Save him! A thousand pounds to the man who saves him." It was the brother of the drowned man. This should be the feeling all along the lines: "*Save him! he is my brother!*

As to plans of interest: first *have a plan.* A program should be arranged at least a month previous; one good paper, questions to be answered briefly, an item of missionary intelligence from each member, variety in devotional exercises; at one time more singing, at another more reading. Occasionally have a short Bible reading instead of a chapter read. Again, instead of reading around, read responsively. An excellent plan is to have some member of society write a letter as if from a missionary in the foreign field. Let her picture her surroundings, her work, her people, incidents likely to happen, and she will look up mission work as never before and present it in a new light.

Undertake the education of some one in some field, or help some one missionary financially, and we shall find ourself both educated and helped. Correspond with some missionary known to the society or helped by it. Write cheerful, and encouraging letters, and the reflex influence will follow.

Make out a list of the unconverted in your neighborhood, and distribute these among the ladies of the society to work for personally.

Look forward to sending out from your society, at some time, a missionary. Pray constantly for this and make your meetings educational. Especially in the line of Bible knowledge is this necessary, as many of our missionaries are defective in this their chief text-book.

Let every member take the Magazine. Distribute it through the neighborhood so that many may get good from the helpful things in it. In every other line of work men and women educate themselves. In Christ's work alone we are contented to work ignorantly, aimlessly; as a result, prayerlessly. There should be a Magazine Committee in every society.

As members of the Auxiliary society this truth applies to us. "He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly, and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully."

"The time is short.
If thou wouldst work for God, it must be now;
If thou would'st win the garland for thy brow,
Redeem the time."

MARGARET ADAIR.

* * *

The Auxiliary is one of the chief agents in missions. Just when the first society was organized might be difficult to reckon. We know of the willing work of women for the tabernacle in the days of Moses; may we not also suppose there were laborers in the Lord's cause, among the women, even previous to this time?

At this late day of the ninteenth century we find that less than one third of the women in the church are members

of the Auxiliary. Each woman should esteem this means of witnessing for her Lord as one of her highest privileges. There should be constantly the aim to cultivate the love for missionary literature. Today we have it given to us in the most interesting form of any reading which is before the world. Our Missionary Magazine stands among the very highest in this class. The impetus given and zeal enkindled by thus portraying the work may not be measured.

The Thank-offering has become one of the most precious memorial days in the history of the church. True, we look forward to the inspiration of the Thank-offering, both at our presbyterial and general conventions, but in the Auxiliary is the beginning of these greater gatherings, and it is here the majority can participate in the service. Still we are in need of new recruits in rendering Thank-offerings that more might know the joy of thus expressing their thanksgiving to the Lord; that we may not appear before Him empty.

Prayer has ever been a stronghold of missions. One of our greatest needs today is more prayer for our own Auxiliary, that we may be quickened of the Lord to a more diligent service, more singleness of heart in His cause; also prayer each day by each member for the blessing of God upon His own laborers in the home and foreign field—praying for many of these by name.

We also need that separation the Master desires—"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world." May the time be hastened when there will be that true setting apart for God's service, when we shall be a peculiar people unto himself.

*York, N. Y.* MRS. R. A. MUNFORD.

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Bind together your spare hours by the cord of some definite purpose.—*Pres. J.*

### Knoxville Items.

Another month has passed, a busy month for both teachers and students. Evangelists Hawk and McClellan were with us for two weeks. Every night we had meetings, at which all were expected to be present, and voluntary prayer-meetings were held in the afternoon. A number, both on the hill and in the neighborhood, signed the cards signifying their acceptance of Christ as their Saviour. Some of the students wrote to unconverted friends at home, sending along a card and urging them to accept Christ. Two of these were returned signed, and were received with glad tears. The meetings were continued a week after the evangelists were gone. On the following Sabbath we had communion. Two young girls united with the church and were baptized. Others expect to unite with their home churches.

Mrs. Cotton, of Canton Bend, Ala. says, "There is no falling off of my little ones, as they cannot work. I used to teach school to get money to send me back to school. Now I teach because I love these children."

The Miller's Ferry letter reports them very busy with closing exercises. They raised $150 for the boards of the church, Judge Henderson contributing fifty dollars. This is most encouraging, as they have just finished rebuilding, largely by their own efforts, the school-house which, you remember, was burned to the ground year before last. The new building is worth about $2,000 but cost our Board about $600.

From Prairie, Ala., the word comes: "Our mothers' meetings are interesting. More than fifty have been enrolled. Some who had never been to the school-house until this year have joined us. One old woman who lives five miles away, and cooks for white people, will come down, stay a little while, show us

her writing, and get a new model. Some subjects discussed in our meeting are, 'How to teach a child not to tell lies,' 'The duties of a woman as wife and mother,' 'How to clean a room,' 'Different ways of cooking eggs', etc. We are trying to get bibles into the homes. and family altars established. We always give them a bible lesson. These meetings close on Friday. We had expected to go to Miller's Ferry to have our closing exercises together, but the Alabama river is so high we fear we shall not be able to get over. The people are reminded of 1886, when the river took away houses and cattle. In giving the benefits of the meetings, our hearts were gladdened by such remarks as, 'I know more of God's word,' 'I know a sight more than I did,' 'I have learned to read better,' 'I have been made a better Christian.' After Sabbath-school we held a special meeting for young men and young women. We had the sexes separate, and tried to tell them the things they so much need to know. When we see the impurity that exists, and know that it is largely due to ignorance and poor home training, we feel like becoming personal friends to each." Only about two weeks ago, Mr. Oliver, the superintendent of the Prairie mission, sent seventy-four dollars as the contribution from that station to help rebuild Elnathan Hall at Knoxville college.

Mr. Cloud writes that he is very much encouraged over the year's work at Summerfield, although he has but one house for himself, the teachers and the school; yet he does not complain, for he realizes that the Board is doing the best it can under trying circumstances.

Mrs. Cook, of Athens, Tenn., has been very sick, but is better to-day. We are to have two young men join the church tomorrow. The young people are coming over to us. They often get up in the meeting and say, "I would have been a drunkard if it had not been for the U. P. church established here."

A carpenter from Knoxville has gone to Camden, Ala., and is now at work putting up the new school-building and the teachers' cottage, under the direction of the Women's Board. We hope this mission will soon be well equipped for service.

One of the old students, Mr. H. C. Stephens, writes hopefully of his work in Mississippi. He cheers us by saying, "I think if you could see the work that many students who have been under your care are quietly doing, you would be amply repaid for the care and trouble you have had in your efforts to prepare them for the work."

## FOREIGN NEWS BUDGET.

### Egypt.

Mrs. Elizabeth Giffen tells of the great Mohammedan feast which comes after their long fast, as observed in Cairo:

The fast of Ramadan has just closed, and yesterday the feast of Bairam began. Today we were riding out of the city, and as we passed through one of the gates of the old city wall, we came unexpectedly to an immense crowd of people. The donkey boy explained that it was the Moslem Christmas. Of course he had no idea what Christmas means, and it is associated in his mind with feasting.

The intent of this great crowd of people seemed to be pleasure. In a tent a band played some most doleful music in a minor key. Through the small opening I could see the bright dresses of the vile dancing women who are to be found wherever there is merry-making. Five wooden "Ferris wheels", about twenty feet in diameter, were filled with children, who, partly from joy and partly from fear, were shrieking at the top of their voices.

A few steps further on, we came to a very large Mohammedan cemetery. "The City of the Dead," is a very appropriate expression for a Moslem burying-place. Over the grave is built a tomb of stone and plaster, usually two or three feet high, so that from a distance each one appears like a diminutive house. Wealthier people often do build real houses over their dead. To day, as we passed I noticed a cluster of people sitting around almost every grave. The white tombs decorated with green palm-leaves, and the people dressed in black

sitting around them, made a lasting impression on my mind. The friends take food with them which they give to the poor in memory of the dead. The donkey boys begged some. One was given a few dates, and the other received a generous piece of unleavened sweet bread, most of which he managed to eat before he overtook us; but he kindly gave me a bit for a "souvenir". Some of the women who were sitting about graves were crying piteously, and no doubt many of them had sore and heavy hearts. I could not but think that death must be awful to those outside the Christian religion.

No wonder that "those who have no hope" give such loud expression to their grief. Oh, if they would only hear, if they would only believe in the only religion that gives comfort to those in sorrow, they might, even in the midst of trouble, have that peace which passeth understanding.

### Miss Ella O. Kyle gives news of the girls' school under her care:

Now and then our hearts have been much cheered and comforted by some of our girls coming out on the Lord's side, to be numbered with the people of God. Five of our largest girls have asked to be received into the church at the next communion, also a freed slave girl, who was taken into the school several years ago, is asking to be baptized. Three of the girls are daughters of our Christian people, another is from a Coptic family and one is of Greek Catholic parentage. Ceela, the slave, is of Mohammedan birth. These girls have been in the boarding school for periods of two, four and six years. They have given evidence of a change of heart, and we believe they are all earnest Christians. They take part in prayer-meetings, and there is a perceptible growth in their knowledge of spiritual things.

For some time there has been an organized prayer circle among the church members of our school, and prayer is daily offered for the different girls. It is strengthening to our faith to see this one and that yielding to the power of the Spirit and becoming disciples of Christ. When the prayer circle was first formed we had but six members, now there are twenty-five, and the circle is constantly enlarging. O! that we all had more faith in the power of prayer.

Our school has been very full this term. Two hundred and thirty names are at present enrolled and twenty three towns and villages are represented in the boarding department.

### Miss A. Y. Thompson gives further news from Cairo:

At the late meeting of our missionary association it was decided that Miss Brown take charge of the Koolalie girls' school, and she commenced work this week. The enrollment this month is 141 and the pupils have shown more than usual interest in their studies, and a good number attend the Sabbath school, and are willing to take some part, when time permits, in the weekly prayer-meeting for women and girls. I thought best to discontinue this meeting in the school, knowing that it interferes with the regular order of the school studies, some of the women coming more than an hour before the appointed time and others remaining after the meeting is over to chat with the teachers of the school and others, or to recite to their respective teachers, all of whom attended this meeting. The meeting will therefore be held from house to house in the Koolalie, and a separate meeting will be held for the girls by Miss Brown, except once a month when we hope to have the regular missionary society meeting. One of the Bible women in Boulac is gifted in speaking, both as regards matter and manner, and in January I asked her to start a meeting on Friday, besides the one on Wednesday, both of which meet in the huts, in different quarters. and she is responsible for conducting these, although I sometimes attend. Being now relieved of school work, I hope to be able for more house visitings and meetings than formerly. To-day, Feb. 20th, Mrs. Harvey is expecting all the teachers in the girls' school under our mission's care in Cairo, to be at her house for dinner and have some addresses afterwards. There may be forty present.

### Miss McDowell furnishes news of work at Alexandria:

Our thoughts are still occupied with reflections upon the week spent in Cairo where we gathered as is usual in February for our annual meeting. It is a time when our work—what we have done, and what we have not done—is brought into vivid review and we are made to feel more and more the vastness of the work and how little we are able to do in comparison with the needs of the field. Last Saturday evening we had a room full of young men out at our English prayer-meeting, and one of the native young men lead the meeting.

The number of girls in the central school has been increasing of late until 112 names are now enrolled. The desire to study English is growing among the girls, and when English once holds the place that French has had in the past, we will have a great advantage in our school work. For some time the attendance has also been better in both the Sabbath-schools, and we hope the interest will continue.

Another Jewess has been impressed with the truth of Christ's teachings, and she is at present spending all her spare time in searching the Scripture and in meditation upon the truths found therein. She is very happy in her new found joy.

Last Sabbath afternoon we enjoyed a Bible reading given by Rev. Hunt, who stopped here a few hours as he was on his way to the Holy Land. We enjoy the visits of such friends. They bring a blessing with them, and when they leave us we feel we are better because of their coming.

## India.

### Miss Mary Lawrence, writing from Pasrur, Feb. 23, tells of the great Mohammedan fast as observed in India:

This is the Mohammedan month of Ramazan. It is the month of the whole year to all followers of the false prophet, and they are commanded to keep it by vigorous fasting. During the remainder of the year their first meal of the day is eaten about ten o'clock in the morning, and the other about eight o'clock in the evening. But during this month they arise and eat before the day shows the faintest light, and again after dark, not being allowed to drink water or smoke the pipe during the day. They are supposed to be saying many prayers and to be looking into the condition of their souls, but the facts of the case are, there is more giving of abuse and more ill temper displayed than at any other time during the year. We find this a very difficult time to go among the people. On the day after the new moon is seen, which marks the coming in of the next month, they have their great feast of the year and eat up all they have saved during the year.

One evening last week a great crowd of men passed by our house, and in the midst of the crowd was a man dragging his wife by the hair while another man was beating her. The case being inquired into, the men put the blame all on the poor woman.

Our sisters at home seem to be ever struggling

for their rights, but O! if the women of this country could only have a one sixteenth part ot the respect and liberty enjoyed by all in the home land, what a blessed thing it would be, and the evangelization of India would go on with ten fold the rapidity.

Miss Nannie Spencer writes from Camp Charwind, Feb. 15, 1897:

This is a good place to write from, because the Christians here are becoming somewhat as one wishes to see them. They have built a schoolhouse for themselves and seem to be making good use of it. When they come into church they bow their heads for a moment's silent prayer, and then sit quietly, instead of gaping around and gossiping until the service begins. They take up a collection too, and the offering usually consists of a goodly number of copper coins, a pile of cotton and some raw sugar.

There was a meeting for the election of elders here the other night. The missionary, in order to give them a start, after vainly waiting for them to name some one, nominated the first man, Baba Kala, (Father Black). Then one of the prominent members nominated the other two necessary to constitute the session. He seemed to expect some one else to nominate him, but as no one did he just mentioned, with all due modesty, his own name. This was really not egotism; he simply thought he was about the right man for the place.

We had a delightful communion season with these people yesterday, with a very appropriate sermon by the one native minister in our district. In it, to illustrate the comfort there is in Christianity, he spoke of Mrs. Martin's death. (She is still held in loving remembrance by her friends of this country), and some of them wished to know where her body was laid to rest, and one of the children running about outdoors was asked where her mamma was. She replied, "My mamma is with Jesus." Those who have not the Christian's hope have none of this calm assurance in the time of bitterest sorrow.

We are refreshed ourselves to see these faithful Christians. It will be a happy day for the Punjab when such a congregation is found in every village, and it really is wonderful to see the start that is being made in this direction. It is indeed the Lord's doing and wondrous in our eyes.

Mrs. Maud Thompson writing from Rawal Pindi:

DEAR FRIENDS AT HOME:

Miss White thinks it is time you had some news from Pindi, so we shall try to give you a few brief notes. I presume you have all heard that Mr. and Mrs. McConnellee are located at Pindi. Mr. McC. has charge of the evangelistic work of the city and district, and Mr. Thompson the school work.

At the beginning of the new year we had daily meetings for nearly three weeks, and though there were no marked outward signs of awakening, we believe that many have been revived and quickened and we trust the good work is still going on. The evil one seems to have become alarmed lest the Kingdom of Christ should increase too rapidly and has sent some of his emmissaries to work among the Christians here. The Roman Catholics have come to Pindi and are opening up work of various kinds. Their object, here as elsewhere, is not the conversion of the heathen around them, but the making of Roman Catholics of those already converted. We are thankful to be able to say that none of our Christians have yet yielded to their wiles.

The Plymouth Brethern are also here; have only come in this week, and it remains to be seen what *they* will accomplish.

There are, however some *encouraging* things. The new school for Mohammedan girls, which was opened about three weeks ago, is one of them. There are 29 girls on the roll now and every prospect of more coming in when the school becomes better known. A Christian leper and his wife, who are to live in the government leper Asylum and work among the lepers, came today. Poor creatures, how sorry we are for them! Leprosy does seem such a hopeless disease, and I'm certain their life among the lepers will not be a pleasant one, for they are all Mohammedans, and a harder, more bitter set of people would be difficult to find. We hope these Christians may be able to win their hearts for Christ, and that it may not be long until there are other Christians among them.

There is very little to write concerning the work here. School work has very few thrilling episodes that can be written up for the papers.

We in Pindi are all in very good health. The children are fat and hearty as any you would find in America, and by going to the hills before it gets very hot, we hope to be able to keep them so.

## Our Girls.

ASYUT, EGYPT,
March 8, 1897.

DEAR FRIENDS:

I well remember one of our professors saying, one day, that a loose tongue was a sign of a full head, and I suppose that the tongue, and perhaps the pen, is most likely to move along the line of that with which the head is filled.

From my subject you will know where my mind is, and although we live among the *boys* here in the college, much of my time and thoughts are with the girls. Our girls' day school here numbers 230, and among them are a great many very sweet and interesting faces with whom one cannot be associated without learning to love and endeavoring to assist their progress in every way possible. At present they are preparing for a public entertainment, which will consist of songs, dialogues, speeches, recitations and a display of their penmanship and needle-work. This "examination day," as we call it, is a great day to the girls. They are privileged to entertain their fathers, brothers and friends, mothers, sisters and aunts, while they in turn will eulogize or criticise as the case may be.

I should like also to mention our Junior missionary society. Formerly the girls and women all attended the same meeting, but it had grown to such a size that it was thought best to divide it; and consequently the arrangement was made that the women with the largest girls should constitute the missionary society proper, and the smaller girls the Junior society, with a member from the large society to meet with them. This honor was given me for a term, and although my small stock of Arabic caused me to feel somewhat at a loss, yet one could not see those fifty or sixty interested and interesting faces without being inspired to renewed energy in their cause. They have their own president, secretary and treasurer, and they take part in the meetings as though each had a special interest in it.

Their collections also are good, and altogether we think that our Junior society has started off very well, and have great reason to hope for its success. May the Lord bless our girls and make them a blessing to those about them, is the earnest desire and prayer of

Your Sister in the Work.

M. R. HART.

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT.

**Open Letter to Junior Workers Regarding the "Needs" of the Junior Auxiliary.**

MY DEAR JUNIOR WORKERS:—

In considering the 'Needs' of the Junior auxiliaries, may I not ask you to quietly commune with your own hearts regarding these needs? Has not this, "God's merry month of May," a lesson for us along this line? As nature in bud, blossom and fruit is springing into life so rapidly, might we not ask ourselves the questions: "Does our God work miracles in nature and not in human hearts? Why does seed time and harvest seem so slow in missionary work? Why have some Junior missionary societies, whose budding we hailed with delight a short time ago, dwindled and shrunk and bear little or no fruit? Why have some been grafted with other stock, and their fruits, though they may be rich, are not for our gathering?"

Let us learn the lesson. What produces the rich green of our lawns? The great deluge of water? No, no, but drop after drop of water, day by day, gives them their beauty. What gives the rich harvest of our wide prairies? Not a carload of corn thrown into one acre, but a few kernels here and there carefully planted without waste and without stint. Need we stop to apply the lesson? Is it not a practical one—that the "grace of continuance" is the need of the hour, the inspiration of which comes from seeing with Dante, "the hosts of Christ's triumphal march and all the fruit harvested by the rolling of the spheres;" or with Paul, who in the midst of the most exacting and detailed labor could lift his eyes and see a kneeling universe—every knee bowing and every tongue confessing that Jesus Christ is Lord?

A complacent folding of the hands and saying "I will not go any further," "I am not fit for the work," "I have not the time," will not relieve us of the responsibility of this work. "Somebody else" can not do *our* work. Rather, dear friends, will we not prayerfully consider whether we are in full sympathy with the missionary enterprises of our Father; whether we are willing to sacrifice ease, comfort, anything, everything that His plans may be accomplished and His commands obeyed? If we will permit ourselves to be brought

to this elevation of thought by the working of the Spirit in our hearts, we shall ever be ready, ever be on the watch, for the great events, while at the same time we do every smallest thing that we can find to do to hasten the day of His appearing, remembering the Lord of the harvest will give the increase, and *you* shall be partaker of the joy.

To cover the needs which might be mentioned, and which vary with the circumstances and environments of different societies, is not admissible within the allotted space, nor yet within the time given for a Junior meeting. In the hope therefore of making the subject definite and practical, we suggest grouping the needs under three P's.

The Junior work needs more Planning more Praying, more Paying. Bring out first the need of more planning on the part of mothers, that visitors, music lessons, etc, shall not come on missionary day; that missionary literature and helps be provided as they are for the secular education; that more of a missionary atmosphere be generated in our homes; that the children of the home may never know what it is not to be interested in the Christless. Suggest to the Juniors how they can help their busy mothers plan for these needs.

"Second, that superintendents and teachers plan for more definite, systematic teaching; for more development of talent in the Juniors—musicals, etc.; also that much planning is needed to keep the Junior work prominently before the church and the community, so as not to allow the work to be "forgotten" in the multiplicity of interests. A prominent Junior superintendent says: "This is absolutely necessary in these busy times of ours, and can be done by public meeting, by well arranged church and newspaper notices." Another source of supply for this need is the planning for the securing of every member of the church for the honorary membership, and every child under five years of age for the "Little-Light-bearers" division. Plan to give your best efforts, your best thoughts, and your most earnest prayers to this work of "feeding the lambs," and, faithful to his promise, "our God shall supply all your needs.

Third, on the part of the Juniors, more planning is needed to be regular in attendance, to be punctual, to have time for committee work, reading, etc. More praying is needed—more definite, more intelligent praying. "Prayer is our greatest weapon." We need to know there is a difference between "saying" our prayers and "praying" them. We need to guard against formalism in sentence prayers that are not original. We need to guard against ostentatious praying. Teach the humble, fervent prayer. "Prayer would multiply the loaves and fishes needed to feed the multitude of famishing heathen." That they have not received the bread of life is proof positive that we do not pray aright. Make prayer the moving power of your meetings.

We need more Paying. "Thy prayers and thine alms" is scriptural. The one follows the other as fruit the blossom. Like faith and works, both are essential; neither can be spared. The one produces the other. Bring out also the thought that the more we invest in an object the greater is our interest in the object. Show the needs of the Boards of the church, the needs of consecrated Christians; hence the need of early practice in the grace of giving. Ever keep the Juniors above the low sentiment of, "mission work is all praying." Never separate "praying and paying." Illustrate with the leaflet suggested in the program, "The Penny and the

Prayer." Juniors need to know that what they give to the Lord "blesses him that gives, as well as him that takes."

Do not fail to emphasize the need of systematic and proportionate giving; and in closing, dear friends, allow me to counsel you to keep discouragements and fears in abeyance. While you redouble individual efforts, putting in such fertilizing elements as we have at command, and while we sow the seed and fertilize the soil in "patient continuance," the sign, from heaven, of ripening fruit shall be given us.

Sincerely Yours, in His Name,

M. M. H.

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**Suggestions for Junior Meeting in May.**

Scripture lesson—"Helps," each Junior reciting a verse or telling an instance where the people were helpers in the Lord's work.

What is being done? (1). The report of last years' work of the division of Juniors; (2). The report of last year's work of the Auxiliary Juniors; (3). The report of last year's work of the Junior Missionary Society. The last report will be given at the W. G. M. S. Convention at Indianola in May. Your Presbyterial delegate can give it to you, or it will be in the June MAGAZINE.

Reading—"Who Will Open the Door for Ling Te," in April MAGAZINE.

Conference on the work of the new year—the special object assigned the Juniors by the W. G. M. S.

Plans and resolutions for better work.

Pray<br>Give<br>Live } More for the Master's work.

Several short prayers thanking God for what we have done in the year that is past and asking for greater strength and devotion to do His will in this new year.

Ten Questions, "The Native People of United States" in March MAGAZINE.

One plan for the new year is a Thank-offering box for each Junior.

There is a little word in 1 Corinthians, 12–28 that is a source of comfort in all our work for the Master. Sometimes we feel that we can do so little that it is no use to make the effort. But here we have the work of "helps" mentioned in the same list as that of prophets, teachers, and others. Is it not a cheering thought that even the youngest child who is trying to serve the Lord Jesus Christ is just as much one of His "helps" as the grown-up people who are doing some great work for Him?

Take your bibles, and either with or without the concordance, find all the verses which tell of the different ways in which we may be "helps" in God's work, either by obeying His own commands or by following the example of those who "helped" in the olden days of Israel's history, and bring to the May meeting of the Juniors.

Will you not try in this new year of the Junior society to "help" more than ever by prayer, by denying yourselves to give to Christ and by living more like Christ? Will you not "help" by persuading others to join our Junior missionary society? Surely, as we think of God's great gift to us in sending His Son into the world to die for us, our hearts will be filled with gratitude and love, and we shall long to be his "helps." And when we who know the joy of having come to Him for the pardon of our sins remember that there are millions who have never even heard of our Saviour, we shall strive to "help" in sending to them the glad message of His love.

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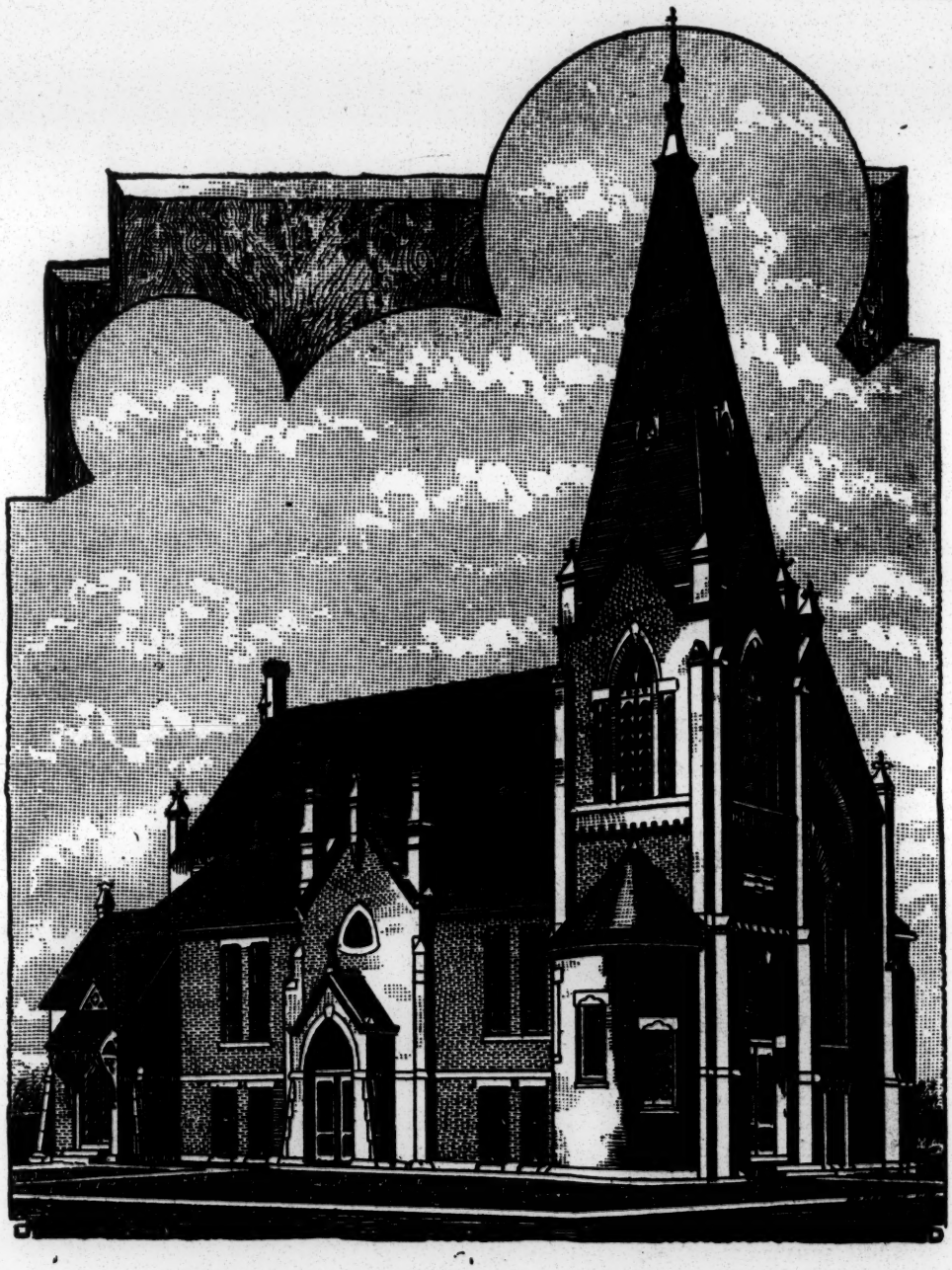
## EDITORIAL.

The president of our W. G. M. S., Mrs. Olive L. Kennedy, writes us, under date of April 10th: "We go to our presbyterial missionary society, and young people's meetings at Loveland tomorrow. What would you eastern people do if you had to pay out eight and ten dollars to go to a Presbyterial meeting?"

We fear there would be danger of a decrease in attendance.



UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT INDIANOLA, IOWA.

## The May Meeting.

"The Lord of the rolling seasons" has again brought us near the time for the May meeting of our General Missionary Society. The angel which offers the prayers of all saints before the throne of the Hearer and Answerer of prayer has doubtless presented many a petition, rising like incense from earnest hearts on earth to the Infinite Heart in heaven, for this May meeting, and only by heavenly influences can we expect blessings at this time. The Executive committee have given a rich and varied programme, representing much thought and work, and which will be efficiently carried out. Some special features will mark this meeting: The tenth annual Thank-offering will be commemorated, and the MAGAZINE Committee will report for nearly ten years of work; and both have reason "to thank God and take courage." The committee for the last meeting, at Erie, Pa., said: "We are praying that our coming meeting may be the best we have ever had. The wisdom born of experience should make each succeeding meeting better than the last,

and knit the workers together in increasing interest and helpfulness." Pray for sound minds, sound hearts, and sound bodies; and over all, that the gentleness of God may make His servants great.

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We have examined with deep interest the report of "A Prosperous Work," recently published by the Board of Directors of the Women's General Missionary Society. It is full of information and encouragement. The Board is to be commended for the condensed and attractive form in which it has placed before the women of the church the record of its work, and we take pleasure in commending the entire report to the prayerful and thoughtful consideration of every reader of this MAGAZINE, with the hope that a study of it may not only open the fountains of beneficence and cause the treasury to overflow, but that the result will also be an enlarged conception of the wonderful rapidity with which the country and the work of the church are growing, and the great need of earnest, united effort to meet the demands. The limitations are not *His* but *ours*. Encouraged by the past, realizing more fully than ever that the Word of the Lord stands fast and his children do right to seek for signs of the fulfillment of his promise, let us not

"Bate a jot of heart or hope
But still bear up and strive
Right onward."

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Mrs. W. W. Grier, president of the Aged People's Home, who has kindly prepared for us an account of Miss McKown's life at that institution, has also furnished for publication a full inventory of her effects and their distribution to relatives. We have been much crowded for space of late, and have omitted this, believing that Mrs. Grier's statement that "*in fact all her effects* were equitably distributed among her brothers and sisters," covers the ground and leaves no room for doubt.

The members of the MAGAZINE Committee present at the Erie convention were impressed with the helpless condition of dear Miss McKnown, and amount of care given her. To lose one sense almost entirely is hard, but to be deprived of two, more than doubles the trial.

Most likely Miss McKown's hardest work was done at the Home. The old soldiers tell us how at the terrible battle of Stone River the volunteers were allowed to fight, while the duty of the regulars was to *stand* under a heavy fire. With blanched faces and fixed muscles they *waited*. Their's was the harder duty. In one sense Miss McKown worked, but in another she waited. We should be thankful, for her sake, that she was not required to wait long.

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A recent number of the *Murshid*, published at Cairo, Egypt, contains a fitting tribute to Miss McKown by the editor, Dr. Watson. No doubt these words, expressive of her ability in different lines of work, and her devotion to the cause of Christ in Egypt, have found a hearty response in the hearts of the members of the native church, and that many spiritual "children rise up and call her blessed."

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It is to be regretted that Rev. Joseph Alter's name was omitted from the list of missionaries at the close of the exercise prepared by Mrs. Alter and which appeared in the Young People's Department of March number. As Mr. Alter served faithfully and acceptably from 1890 to 1896 there are few but will supply the name almost unconsciously.

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The required number of subscriptions to the contemplated Junior paper have not yet been attained. It would be well for societies to attend promptly to this matter that the full number and over may be reported to the Annual Meeting.

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For the first editorial in April number we are indebted to Mrs. T. H. McMichael, of Cleveland. O. It was far from our intention to engage in literary theft, and further still from making one of the esteemed vice presidents of the W. G. M. S. the victim.

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From a private letter we learn that Miss Susan McConnell, aged 74 years, passed away recently. A lovely Christian woman. She and her sister, Miss Margaret McConnell, occupied the Smith room in the Aged People's Home. The younger was taken and the other left to mourn the loss of her companion.

A sister of Miss McKown, and a devoted Christian worker, writes: "The Women's Pre-byterial of Arkansas Valley meets in Walton the 13th and 14th of this month. If you have a few extra copies of the Magazine I will take pleasure in laying them on the table and calling the attention of the delegates to the urgent necessity of sustaining it, as well as to the benefits derived therefrom. We at Walton certainly appreciate your efforts, for out of a paying membership in our society of 29, we take 24 numbers. I thank you very much for your kind words and sympathy for myself and family. I have received many loving messages from friends and strangers, and they are as Mary's ointment, bearing a heavenly perfume. Although the weak heart aches, He knows best and it is well. Lovingly,

MRS. I. H. TAGGART.

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To Mr. J. L. Browne, real estate agent at Indianola, Iowa, we are indebted for picture of the U. P. church of that place.

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## Programme, Women's General Missionary Society, Indianola, Iowa, May 11-14, 1897.

TUESDAY, 7:45 P. M.

Mrs. T. H. McMichael, Second Vice-President, presiding. Devotional service.—The Bible Portrait of a Christian Woman. Fraternal greetings. Address. Roll Call. Reception.

WEDNESDAY, 9 A. M.

Morning worship.
9:05—Report of Committee on Credentials; roll call; minutes; appointment of committees.
9:25—Report of Secretary of Women's General Missionary Society.
9:35—Report of Treasurer of Women's General Missionary Society.
9:45—Report of Secretary of Women's Board.
9:55—Report of Treasurer of Woman's Board.
10:05—Report of United Presbyterian Women's Association.
10:30—Session of Prayer.
10:35—Report of Secretary of Literature. Discussion.
10:50—Report of Magazine Committee. Discussion.
11:10—Report of Church Extension and Parsonage fund. Discussion.
11:30—Reports of standing committees.
11:50—Business Methods in Church Work; Mrs. R. A. Munford, York, N. Y.
12:00—Adjournment,

WEDNESDAY, 1:45 P. M.

Devotional Service—A Consecrated Church and Home Missions; Mrs. Martha J. Hart, College Springs, Iowa.
2:00—Minutes.
2:05—Review of Work Among the Freedmen; Dr. Jane C. Vincent, secretary.
2:30—A Testimonial to the Work; Mrs. Nannie D. Fowlkes, Bluestone mission.
2:50—Review of the Work of Home Missions; Mrs. H. C. Campbell, secretary.
3:15—Address, "Our Indian Mission;" Mrs. Jeanette C. Alter, Preston, Ill.
3:35—A Fact Conference; Mrs. Lyda B. Stewart, Sparta, Illinois, presiding.
4:00—Open Hour.
5:00—Adjournment.

WEDNESDAY, 7:45 P. M.

Praise and responsive service. Our Thank-offering. Review of Ten Years' Work; Mrs. Mary Clokey Porter, Allegheny, Pa.
Testimony—Gift worship.

Its influence on { Individuals, Families, Congregations, Missions.

A glance forward.

THURSDAY, 9:00 A. M.

Devotional service. The Word of God and Foreign Missions; Mrs. W. T. Moffett. Arkansas City, Kan.
9:15—Roll call. Minutes.
9:30—Review of Work in the Foreign Fields; Mrs. W. J. Reid, secretary.
10:00—An Hour with the Missionaries; Mrs. Milla Meek, Sandusky, Ind., presiding. Opened by Mrs. Susie Young, Grundy Center. Iowa.
11.00—Reports of committees on nominations, place of meeting. etc.
Election of officers and members of Women's Board.
12:00—Adjournment.

THURSDAY, 1:45 P. M.

Minutes.
1:50—Children in the Psalms; Miss Julia Jamieson, Wildomar, Cal.
2:05—Review of Work Among the Children; Mrs. N. Wylie Stevenson, secretary.
2:35—Conference on Children; Miss Zilpha A. Lackey, Washington, Ia., presiding.

Children in the { Home, (1) Church, (Intermediate) (2) College. (3)

(1) Mrs. G. G. Wallace, Omaha, Neb.
(2) Mrs E. B. Stewart, Chicago, Ill.
(3) Miss Bertha I. Collins, Tarkio, Mo.

3:15—Practical discussion.
3:45—Service with the Juniors; conducted by Miss Lou Moore, Indianola, Ia.
4:00—Open hour.
5:00—Adjournment.

THURSDAY, 7:45 P. M.

Bible Study—Serving God; Colorado Presbytery.
Miuutes. Offering.
Training for Christian Service; Mrs. Albert Gordon, Burlington, Iowa.
Our Incentives to Serve; Mrs. Jennie Logue Campbell, Monmouth, Ill.

FRIDAY, 9:00 A. M.

Divine Light for Human Footsteps; Mrs. Bina C. Hawley, College Corner, Ohio.
9:15—Roll Call. Minutes. Unfinished business. Report of committee on resolutions.
10:00—Gleanings from this convention; hints for the next. Adjournment.

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## Program for Missionary Society for May.

Scripture Text.—Stand fast in *one* Spirit, with *one* mind, striving *together* for the faith of the Gospel.
General topic.—What has been done; what ought to be done?
Scripture Reading.—Psalm 90.

PRAYER AND PRAISE.

A short statement by the President showing how it is fitting that these two

subjects should be considered together. And at this time, the beginning of a new year of work, it will be well to notice the happily significant features of the past year's record, and the promise of the future. First,

THE WORK.

1st.—The entire support of unmarried women missionaries in the home and foreign fields.
2d.—The support of women medical missionaries and their work in Egypt and India.
3d.—The work among the Warm Springs Indians.
4th.—The support of women industrial teachers and their work among the Freedmen.
5th.—The Agricultural and Industrial work in Alabama.
6th.—The Parsonage, and part of the Church Extension Work.
7th.—Aid in erecting buildings for training schools and teachers' homes among the Freedmen.

These divisions will furnish interesting and profitable subjects for short talks or papers, the time limit being faithfully kept by each speaker.

Second.—The missionary society may resolve itself into a class and answer the following questions previously distributed by the leader:

How many members of congregational societies in America, women and junior? How many in Egypt? In India?

Of the twenty-nine single women missionaries, how many salaries are fully pledged and how many are partially, by the Presbyterial societies? What is the advanced step taken in the foreign work in Egypt in a college where there are over four hundred men and boys?

MEDICAL WORK.

How many beds have been endowed in the Jhelum Hospital and at what cost? What will probably be the new medical work for the coming year in Egypt?

HOME MISSIONS.

How many city missionaries are supplied by the Women's Board? Name the cities and missionaries stationed there.

FREEDMEN'S WORK.

How much was expended in this department? How many teachers are employed? How many acres of land and at what price were purchased at Prairie, Ala? With what result? At what point has the new school house and teachers' home been built?

MINISTERIAL RELIEF—CHURCH EXTENSION AND PARSONAGE.

What do you know of the department of Ministerial Relief, Church Extension and Parsonage?

LITERATURE.

When was this department opened? How many leaflets were sold last year?

JUNIOR MISSIONARY WORK.

How many new societies were organized last year? With how many members?

MISSIONARY MAGAZINE.

How many subscribers?

TRAINING SCHOOL.

How conducted, and how many students?

ENCOURAGEMENTS.

What are the encouragements? Have the contributions of the societies increased? Should the Thank-offering be left undesignated? Why? Should the contributions of missionary societies be reckoned in with quota to the Church Boards? Why not?

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE?

REMARKS.—An increase of membership, larger contributions, earnest prayer for the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the cultivation of a thankful, joyous spirit, expressing itself in thanksgiving to the Lord.

On the keystone of a bridge over a stream in Scotland stand these words, "God and We teaching that nothing can be done without the great Architect." It is not God alone, which would mean human idleness; or "We and God," which would be almost profanity; but "God and We"—workers together with Him.

It will gladden your hearts to read the report of "A Prosperous Work," sent out by the Women's Board for gratuitous distribution. This, with the annual report, will give information that every United Presbyterian woman ought to know; to be procured of Literature Secretary, Mrs. E. J. McPherson, Moorewood Ave., E. E. Pittsburgh. J. MC. H.

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**Notice to Delegates.**

Reduced rates on the certificate plan, have been granted by the Western Passenger Association to ladies attending the Women's General Missionary Society, to be held in Indianola, Iowa, May 11–14. In order to secure this there must be railroad certificates showing that 100 persons have actually been in attendance holding certificates calling for tickets over *terminal* lines to the meeting point.

Certificates showing purchase of tickets at fifty cents or less shall not be counted as the total, but above fifty cents they will. Please note this.

Further information will be given in the church papers.

ELIZABETH D. BROWN, R. R. SEC.
*Craft Ave., Pittsburg, Pa.*

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As it will be necessary for those attending the annual meeting of the Women's General Missionary Society at Indianola, Iowa, coming from the west and southwest to go by the Burlington, via Chariton, the Burlington company has agreed to run a special train from Chariton to Indianola, connecting with train No. 4 from Omaha, leaving Omaha at 9.48 A. M. and getting to Chariton at 4.40 P. M. This special train will reach

Indianola between 6 and 7 on Tuesday evening. This offer of the Burlington route is made on condition that a sufficient number of delegates and visitors go over their line. Unless this arrangement can be made, it would be necessary to stay in Chariton over Tuesday night; so it would be for the accommodation of all concerned to advise the general passenger agent of the Burlington at Omaha of their proposed attendance immediately.

MRS. GEO. G. WALLACE.

### Training Class.

XENIA, O., April 15, 1897.

TO TRAINING CLASS COMMITTEE:

The members of the Training Class of Xenia Seminary desire to express to the committee in charge of the work our hearty appreciation of the opportunities afforded us for the study of God's word, and the helpful missionary and medical lectures furnished us during the year.

We wish also to thank the members of the faculty for their daily instruction and special lectures, and the kindly interest they have shown us; also the missionaries and physicians who have given special talks to the class.

We recommend that the Training Class work be continued, and that all who desire a better preparation for Christian work at home or abroad avail themselves of the opportunities it offers.

We recommend also that the committee arrange for a systematic division of districts and homes, where personal work is needed, so that we may have the blessing of giving added to our receiving.

MISS C. E. WILSON,
MRS. A. HOPE,
MISS MAUDE RENWICK.

## REPORTS, Etc.

### Report Women's Board for April.

The regular monthly meeting of the Board was held April 6th. Opened with usual devotional exercises.

Foreign secretary reports the salary question still undecided. A report on this subject is to be sent to the General Assembly by the Board of Foreign Missions. Miss Buchanan, of Egypt, reports the school overflowing; the two physicians sent out lately by the Board, Drs. Watson and Lawrence, have all they can do. Letters received from Drs. Johnston and Platter, of India, report their work and the need of more assistance. It was decided to send out two additional missionaries, in addition to the three we offer to support. The Board wishes to assume the salaries of all unmarried women missionaries and to make all arrangements in regard to their salaries. This business is in the hands of a committee to report in two weeks.

Home secretary reports from Alameda sixty-six calls made, meetings every day, and evening evangelistic services. From Moline, 332 calls made; Spokane, 130, calls, and 45 meetings held. From Chicago, 120 calls made and 32 meetings held. Miss Mattie Thompson appointed to be our second worker in Chicago.

Freedmen secretary has received the deed for property at Camden, Ala. The farm manager reports having rented 173 acres on shares, and 83 for money, making 256 acres under cultivation, 32 acres more than last year. The product is to be principally cotton. Report received from Knoxville dressmaking department. Miss McCahan reports one new missionary society.

Church Extension secretary reported application for loan, and business regarding notes due and hard to collect.

Thank-offering secretary reports the mailing of quantities of envelopes, prize essays, and has given out 1800 mite boxes during the year. Literature committee report sending out 2500 copies of "A Prosperous Work" to congregations throughout the church. The reports of Junior secretary and treasurer were laid over until the adjourned meeting to be held April 20.

MRS. MARY W. PORTER, Sec'y.

### Question Drawer.

[Address all communications for this department to Miss E. W. Pollock, 234 East 9th St., Erie, Pa.]

QUES.—Have we too much church machinery?

ANS.—We have been hearing a good deal of late about machinery in the church, and if by machinery we mean organizations we truly have a great deal of it; but it is only when machinery stands

in the way of progress that we can say we have too much of it.

Organizations are usually formed for the purpose of systematizing and executing certain work, which can be done better by a system than without. If this is true of all, they are a help in doing more work, and as long as they are a help we cannot have too many of them; but each organization, or piece of machinery, must be tested and stand or fall on its own usefulness or the want of it.

QUES.—How can the W. M. S. best co-operate with the pastor?

ANS.—There should exist between the pastor and the society the most perfect confidence and the deepest sympathy, so that each will stand ready to help the other. The society should make the pastor feel that when he wants any missionary work done, he can call on the society at any time to do it; or, if he wants to interest the congregation in missions, make him feel that the society stands ready to help him in any way he may direct. Let the education in the society be in harmony with his wishes, by seeing that the full amount is given to the Boards of the church by each member before she gives to the society.

QUES.—Should a delegate to any of our meetings receive payment of her expenses if she does not perform the duties fully?

ANS.—We think this question was asked in view of two facts, that some accept the position of delegate because it gives them an opportunity to visit friends, or do shopping in a large city, and the time that should be spent in the convention is spent outside and they go back to the societies unable to give them a report of the convention.

The other is, a certain society sent five delegates to a convention, and at the next meeting not one out of the five appeared to give a report of the convention. We would say that when delegates have no more appreciation of their responsibility than this, and do not meet the requirements of a delegate the society is justifiable in refusing to pay their expenses.

QUES.—How can we create a greater interest in mission work?

ANS.—This question is not new, and perhaps we may not be able to give any new ideas in answering it; but it may be helpful to repeat some of the old ones.

The first and best way is to be interested ourselves. Enthusiasm is contagious, and one who is full of energy, enthusiasm and love for missions can kindle a like fire in the hearts of a half dozen others. But the question is, are we *really in earnest*? What have we done in the past year? Have we prayed for our missionaries one by one? Have we prayed for the people among whom they are laboring? Have we prayed for the mission Boards and for the church who are sending them to the fields? Have we prayed for the women who are interested in missions and how many of these have we invited to attend the meetings of the missionary society and what have we done to make the meetings interesting to the new comer? How much have we read and studied about missions ourselves, and how much literature have we placed in the hands of the uninterested? How much time and money have we given to show that we are in earnest? How many of the indifferent have we induced to open their homes for the meetings of the society? If we can answer these questions satisfactorily, it will help to solve the problem.

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### Treasurer's Report.

Receipts for the month of March, 1897.

*Foreign.*—Muskingum Pres., 10; Huntsville, 9; Bellefontaine Y. L. for India, 10.75; Galt Can., 30; Cochranton, 12; Leroy, 6; Peebles, 6; Tranquility, 5; Waitsburg, 5; 1st Buffalo, 44; Franklinville, 13; Bowinia Centre for India, 5; West Kortright, 16; New Kingston, 10; Miss Margaret Gordon, Mankato 5; 3rd Philadelphia, 15; 8th Philadelphia, 25; 1st Baltimore, 20; Mt Pleasant, Ind., 5; Mrs. Anna McGee, 1; Mrs. E. H. McClymonds, 5; Saltsburgh, 5; Jacksonville, 5; Wheeling, 16; Warnock, 5; 3rd Pittsburgh, Junior M. S. for Egypt, 5; 1st Pittsburgh Y. W. Progressive Circle, 25; 1st Verona 5; 9th Pittsburgh Y. M. King's Daughters, 15; McDonald, 10; Allentown, 5; 6th Pittsburgh, 75; Hamilton Ave, Pittsburgh, 5.

*Foreign Specials.*—A little girl of Mt. Hermon congregation to build a native church in India, 25; 2nd Washington, Ia., King's Daughters for pupil Sialkot, 25; Garrattsville scholarship India, 25; 2nd New Washington, for Bible reader India, 37.50; 2nd New Wilmington Mission Band pupil India, 25; 5th Allegheny King's Daughters, for India famine sufferers, 10; Martin pupil Sialkot, 12.50; Master Luther James Johnson, for girls and boys in Egypt, 2 07; Media, for scholarship Sialkot, 12. 50; Brookville, native pupil India, 25; Blairsville, for mission purposes India, 13; 8th Pittsburgh Dorcas Y. W. for scholarship India, 25; 1st Allegheny, Jr. C. U., 10; Bellevue, Y. L., 10; Bellevue Willing Workers, 3; Avalon Home and Foreign Mission Circle, 5, all for support of Egyptian boy.

*Foreign Salaries.*—Miss M. R. Martin, Mansfield Pres., 18.75; Steubenville Pres., 250; Miss Thompson Muskingum Pres., 112.85; Miss Fannie C. Martin, Conemaugh O. Y. P. C. U., 45; Miss Smith, Princeton, W. M. S., 50; Chetopa, L. M. S., 13; Miss C. E. Wilson, Keokuk Pres., 97; Miss Fulton, Southern Illinois Pres., 55; Miss Campbell Monmouth Pres., 30; Miss McMillan, New York Pres., 200; Miss Corbett, Brookville Pres., 100; Miss Embleton by societies and Sabbath school Oakland Monongahela Pres., 2.50; Conemaugh Pres., 195.

*Endowment of Beds in Jhelum Hospital, India.*—Fredericksburg Mission Band, 3.36; 3rd Washington, Pa, Little Helpers M. Band, 5; 1st Washington, Ia., Helping Hand Circle, 10; Ainsworth Junior M. S., 3; Seattle Little Helpers of Junior M. S., 4; Oneonta Junior C. E., 2; Bovinia Centre Junior M. S., 4; West Kortright, Jun. M. S., 5; New York pr Miss Neely, 12.25; Homer City Junior Y. P. C. U., 2; 1st Washington, Ia., Junior M. S., 1; "Paul Krohn" bed by Miss Kathleen Anderson, 100; A bequest through Blairsville Soc. "Carrie Patterson Memorial", 50; "Mattie Anderson Krohn" bed, by Miss Emma Dean Anderson, 100.

*Medical Work.*—9th Pittsburgh, 20; Ingram, 20; 5th Pittsburgh, 6; Union, 4; 7th Pittsburgh, 9; a friend from Union church, 30; 3rd Pittsburgh King's Daughters Y. W., 5.

*Home and Salaries.*—2nd Philadelphia, 25; Muskingum Pres., 28; Sidney, 10; Belle Center, 20; Findlay, 5; Silver Creek, 8; Huntsville, 10; Galt, 30; Knoxville, Tenn., 5; Jamestown, Kan., 5; Iana, Kan., 5: Plain Grove, 9.10; 2nd New Wilmington, 12; 10th Allegheny for debt, 10; Mrs. R. H. Knox, 10; Sewickley, 5; 5th Allegheny King's Daughters, 10; 4th Allegheny W. M. and Benev. Soc., 10; Bellevue Willing Workers, 5; Shenango, 5; Jamestown, Pa., 7; Hooperston, 5; Unity Chillicothe Pres., 5; Tranquility, 5; 3rd Pittsburgh, 15; Covington, 5; Franklinville, 13; Andes, 17; 1st New York, 25; Mt. Pleasant, Ind., 2; Mrs. Annie McGee, 8; Mrs. E. H. McClymonds, 5; Symrna, 10; Mahoning, 4; Dayton, 6; Brookville, 25; Apollo, 6: Saltsburg, 5; Homer City, 6; Steubenville, 25; West Beaver, 11: 2nd Chicago, 23; Wheeling, 15; Wheeling, Y. W., 40; Warnock, 5; Sioux City, 5; Clinton, Mass., 5; Willamette, 4; Living Lake, 7; Liberty Neb., 5; Princeton, 10;

*Warm Springs Indian Mission.*—Cherry Fork, 7; Mahoning Brookville Pres., 1; Jacksonville, 4; Mission Creek, 5.

*Freedmen's Salaries, etc.*—Muskingum Pres., 18; Knoxville College Dressmaking Department, 9.60; Galt, 5; Pratt Creek, 10; Cuylerville, 3; R. H. Reed

Sharon, Kan., 2; Sewickley, 7; 5th Allegheny King's Daughters, 10; Avalon, Home and Foreign Mission Circle, 13; Shenango, 5; Greenville, 11; Greenville Junior C. E. for little Boy's Home, 1; Le Roy, Ind., 8; Tranquility, 5; 3rd Pittsburgh, 15; New Kingston, 10; Bovina Centre, Junior M. S., 2.50; Miss Margaret Gordon, Mankato, 5; Mahoning Brookville Pres., 1; Apollo, 6; Saltsburgh, 3; Jacksonville, 5; Wellsville, 25; Scia for boy Knoxville, 13; Wheeling, 10; Wheeling Junior M. S., 5; Warnock, 5; Battle Creek, 3; Albany, Or., 10; Living Lake, 7; Mission Creek, 5; Greenville Junior C. E. for Little Girl's Home Tenn., 1.

*Church Extension and Parsonage.*—Bellefontaine, 10; Almeda first payment on note two, 55.50; Galt, 10; 1st Topeka, third payment on note two, 50; 1st Washington, Ia., 10; Le Roy, 6; Denver Boulevard ch, second payment on note two, 66.60 Portland, Ore., first payment on note four, 53; Apollo, 6; 1st East Liverpool, 11; Wheeling, 10; Battle Creek, 3; Mission Creek, 5.

*Ministerial Relief.*—Galt, 5; Sewickley, 5; Cherry Fork, 4; 3rd Pittsburgh, 5; 1st East Liverpool, 11.

*Orphan's Home.*—Mrs. J. P. McDaniel, 1; Greenville Junior C. E., 2; 7th. Pittsburgh, 20; McDonald, 5; 1st Chicago Cradle Roll, 3.68.

*Memorial Hospital Allegheny.*—Greenville Junior C. E., 2; 3rd Pittsburgh, King's Daughters, 2; 5th Pittsburgh, 5; 7th Pittsburgh, 10; 1st Wilkinsburg Junior M. S., 2; Steubenville Y. L. M. S., 25.

*Aged People's Home.*—2nd Wilkinsburg, Mrs. Crawford's S. S. Class, 5. 5th Pittsburgh, 5; 7th Pittsburgh, 20; a friend in Union Ch., 10.

*Pittsburgh Syrian Mission.*—Monongahela Presbyterial Soc., 55.50;

*Miscellaneous.*—Monongahela Pres. for Allegheny Training School, 1; Shadyside Pittsburgh for Bethesda Home, 10.

*Life Membership W. G. M. S.*—Mrs. W. W. Lawrence, Bellevue, 25.

*Contingent Fund.*—1st Buffalo, 1; Brookville, 1; Interest from investments, 88; Interest on bank balances, 11.91; From sale of minutes of the W. G. M. S. for 1896, 1.60.

*Investments reduced.*—150.

E. J. SLOAN, Treas.

### Miss Nettie Wilson.

A tribute of love from the W. M. S. to Miss Nettie Wilson, who died Dec. 18, 1897, for many years an active member of the Women's Missionary Society of Homestead, Pa. The members have in appreciation of her worth, adopted the following:

*Resolved*, That in Miss Nettie Wilson we have lost an earnest, faithful and devoted worker, whom we shall long mourn, yet we bow in humble submission to the wisdom of our Heavenly Father.

*Resolved*, That the bereaved brother and sister have our sympathy, and that we commend them to the God who comforteth us in our tribulation.

MRS. C. I. HOUSTON, } Com.
MRS. H. A. MCKEE. }

### Miss Lizzie McCrory.

The Women's Missionary Society of Johnstown United Presbyterian church would pay a loving tribute of respect to the memory of Miss Lizzie McCrory, whose life on earth was finished on the morning of Feb. 24th, 1897, but a glorified life in heaven begun.

Although in delicate health for four years, she was glad to depart to be with Jesus. Some beautiful characteristics in her life were her devotion to her church and every good work, her cheerful disposition, gentle patience, and thoughtfulness for those about her during four months of suffering.

Her whole life was one of trust in her Saviour, and submission to the Father's will. We humbly submit to Him who "doeth all things well," and extend our sympathy to the bereaved family. Obey the command. "Be ye also ready." COM.

### Miss Jennet Irvin.

Miss Jennet Irvin, who fell asleep in Jesus at her home in Wheatland on Nov. 6th, 1896, was one of the charter members of the W. F. M. S., of Caledonia, N. Y. We as a society deem it fitting that we testify to her Christian life and character by a tribute to her memory.

*Resolved*, That we who are left may emulate her in faithfulness and liberality, and be admonished to greater diligence in work for the blessed Master, whose we are and whom we serve.

*Resolved*. That we extend our sympathy to the bereaved brother and sister, commending them to the Saviour who cares for the sorrowing.

CASSIE MALLOCH, } Com.
JENNETTE WALKER. }

### Mrs. A. G. McKenzie.

The Women's Missionary Society of the United Presbyterian church, Wellsville, Ohio, offer this tribute of love and respect to the memory of our friend and co-worker, Mrs. A. G. McKenzie, who died April 7, 1897.

Had God so willed, she would have led us in the devotional services of our regular meeting on Friday night. But that afternoon we laid her to rest, to wait the resurrection.

We gladly bear testimony to her noble Christian character in her home and in the church. Quiet and unassuming, her voice was seldom heard in public, yet she was ever ready and willing to aid in every good work.

Her work on earth is ended. We miss her presence and counsel, but the influence of her consistent life will long be felt by us all.

We extend our sincere sympathy to the sorely bereaved husband, and to all the friends, and commend them to Him who saith, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." COM.

### Mrs. Sarah J. Taylor.

On the 25th of February, one of the members of our Missionary association, Mrs. Sarah J. Taylor of the 1st United Presbyterian Church, Baltimore, fell asleep; one whose loss will be felt, not only by our own association and by our own congregation, but as she was ever "going about doing good," in many of the other churches, and among many individuals and neighborhoods.

For many years she was a director in the Presbyterian Eye and Ear hospital. The physicians of that institution lament her loss. Her executive ability, and cheerful manner, and faithful attendance were requisites which they all appreciated. Her faith in God, her Father, in Christ, her Redeemer, and the constant indwelling and guidance of the Holy Spirit were indeed remarkable.

So that we do not think of her as being dead, but her tired body as sleeping, and her spirit in the full enjoyment of all that which her faith and bright hope anticipated and had long since apprehended.

MRS. MARY C. CARSON, }
MRS. THOS. LAUGHLIN, } Com.
MRS. SARAH B. BRUCE, }

### Mrs. Frank Gray.

A tribute of love from the L. M. S. to Mrs. Frank Gray, who died Jan. 27, 1897, for many years an active member of the Women's Missionary Society of Homestead, Pa. The members have in appreciation of her worth, adopted the following:

*Resolved*, That in Mrs. Gray we have lost an earnest, faithful and devoted worker, whom we shall long miss; yet we bow in humble submission to the wisdom of our Heavenly Father.

*Resolved*, That the bereaved husband and relatives have our spmpathy, and that we commend them to the God who comforteth us in our tribulation.

MRS. H. A. MCKEE, } Com.
MRS. C. I. HOUSTON. }

MRS. MARGARET BEVERIDGE REID.